Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention provides an improved channel quality indicator indicia for OFDM communication environments. In addition to taking into consideration carrier-to-interference ratios, the present invention also takes into consideration the degree to which the channel response varies among the sub-carriers throughout the OFDM frequency band. The carrier-to-interference ratio and the degree of channel response variation are directly or indirectly used by a base station to select coding and modulation schemes for transmissions from the base station to the mobile terminal reporting these factors. Further, scheduling of data sent to the mobile terminal and other mobile terminals competing for the same channel resources may also be based in part on the carrier-to-interference ratio and the degree to which the channel response varies.